



LAST STAND OF
NEW KRYPTON



887
MAY '10

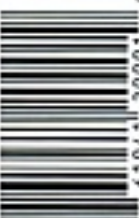


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--APPRECIATE
YOU TAKING THE
TIME TO SEE ME,
MR. RAYMOND.

YOUR MESSAGE
WAS CERTAINLY
INTRIGUING, MS. LANE,
THOUGH I'M CURIOUS AS
TO HOW YOU MANAGED
TO TRACK DOWN MY
PERSONAL CELL PHONE
NUMBER.

YOU SAID
YOU NEEDED HELP
RECOVERING DATA
FROM A DAMAGED
LAPTOP? I'M NOT IN
TECH SUPPORT,
THOUGH I HAVE
PEOPLE I CAN...



THOSE ARE
BULLET HOLES,
AREN'T THEY? YOU
HAVE A TOUGH
EDITOR.

YOU HAVE
NO IDEA.



HARD DRIVE'S
A MESS.
MOTHERBOARD'S
GONE.

TOUGH JOB,
BUT I THINK MY...
FRIENDS WERE TO YOUR
LEFT AND THEIR BOSS CAN
PROBABLY LIFT THE DATA.
COMPUTER'S A LOSS,
THOUGH.

THE DATA'S
NOT THE PROBLEM.
EVERYTHING IMPORTANT
WAS BACKED UP.



HERE, A GIFT FROM AN...
ASSOCIATE. IT SHOULD
DO THE TRICK.

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AND SECURE LINK INTO
INTERWEBB, ANYWHERE IN
THE WORLD.



AND IT HAS A SECURITY
SUITE THAT'LL GIVE THE
MILITARY FITS.

NICE.

HONESTLY,
MS. LANE, HOW
DID YOU MANAGE
TO TRACK DOWN
MY NUMBER?

MR. RAYMOND...



...I HAVE
JUST ABOUT
EVERYBODY'S
NUMBER.

FOLLOW JOHN RAYMOND'S
ADVENTURES AS THE WEB EVERY
MONTH IN HIS TITULAR COMIC!
--PlayaBic Matt

--LOVE TO KNOW
HOW YOU TALKED
GENERAL LATHAM INTO
THIS, MS. LANE.

I MET HIM
A LONG TIME AGO, AT
MY FATHER'S "FUNERAL."
HE WAS...NICE.

AND HE
DOESN'T LIKE
MY DAD MUCH,
WHICH
HELPED.

WE'RE
NINETY SECONDS
OUT, SO GET READY.
I'VE SEEN THE
SATELLITE IMAGING.
IT'S GONNA BE BAD.

UNDERSTOOD,
SGT. CAUCE.
I'VE SEEN BAD
BEFORE--

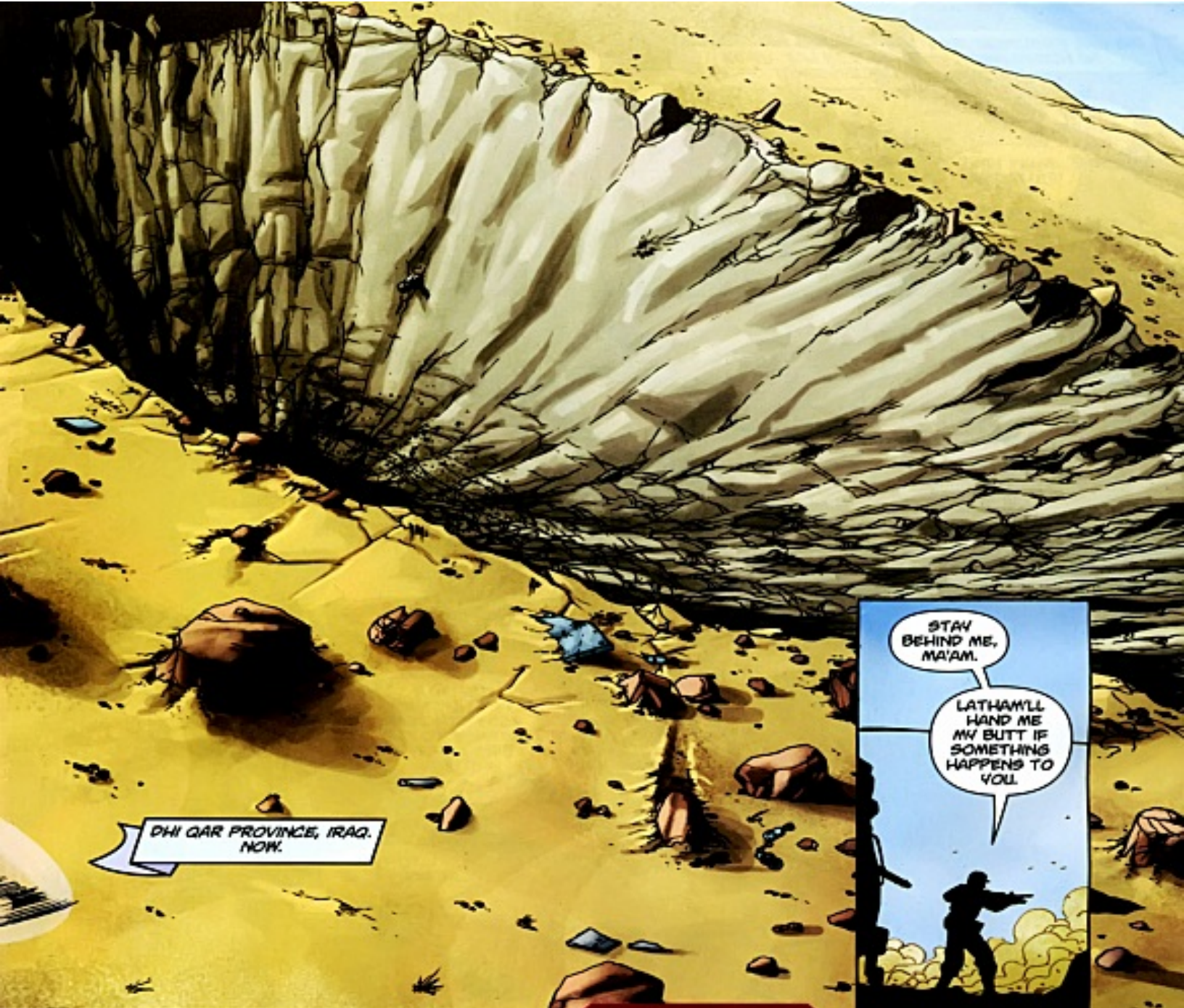
--OH GOD.

NO,
MA'AM...

...I DON'T
THINK HE'S
HOME RIGHT
NOW.

TRUTH TO POWER

I APPRECIATE
THE THOUGHT,
SERGEANT, BUT
IF SOMETHING
HAPPENS...



DHI QAR PROVINCE, IRAQ.
NOW.

STAY
BEHIND ME,
MA'AM.

LATHAM'LL
HAND ME
MY BUTT IF
SOMETHING
HAPPENS TO
YOU.

GREG RUCKA & ERIC TRAUTMANN: WRITERS
PERE PEREZ: ARTIST

JAVIER MENA: COLORIST - ROB LEIGH: LETTERER

KALMAN ANDRASOFSZKY: COVER

WIL MOSS: ASST. EDITOR - MATT IDELSON: EDITOR

THANKS TO MATTHEW STURGES

FROM THE MISTS OF
LOST KRYPTON, STORIES
ARE TOLD OF TWO MYTHICAL
HEROES WHO TIME AND TIME
AGAIN ROSE TO PROTECT
THEIR PEOPLE FROM
TYRANNY AND
TERROR --

NIGHTWING
AND
FLAMEBIRD

SUPERMAN created by
Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster



...IT'LL TAKE
MORE THAN A
GUN TO SAVE
US.

THE GIANT'S FOOTPRINTS

POSTED AT: 1:430 LOCAL TIME | LOCATION: >>SECURE<<

Think about this:

In journalism, we file "stories." Not reports, but stories.

I'm going to tell you a story, a story some people desperately want kept secret. It's a story about aliens and monsters and gods. It is, ultimately, a story about two young people who, in their own way, are wrestling with the same questions every young man or woman has grappled with: who they are, who they will be, and why they are here.

I'm telling you this story because you've been lied to. You need to know the truth. And even if this is a story, that doesn't mean it's not a true one.

My name is **Lois Lane**. My father, **General Samuel Lane**, is the man lying to you. And he's trying to start a war.

DHI QAR PROVINCE, IRAQ.
36 HOURS AGO.

HIDDEN LAB INSIDE
THE ZIGGURAT OF UR.

GREAT
FATHER
RAO...

...WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE,
JAX-UR?

I'VE SOLVED AN
ENGINEERING
PROBLEM.

IT'S ONLY
FITTING THAT
YOU BOTH BEAR
WITNESS TO THE
BIRTH OF THE
FUTURE...


...TO THE
AWAKENING OF
GOD.

YOUR "PERFECT
BEING" LOOKS LIKE
HE NEEDS A NAP,
JAX-UR.

PROBLEM
WITH YOUR
DESIGN?

TAUNTS?
MUST WE?

FOLLOWED BY
THE PREDICTABLE AND
CRUDE PHYSICAL
ASSAULT,
I PRESUME...



FATHER RAO
CONTROLS OUR DESTINIES...
AND NOW I CONTROL FATHER RAO.
A RAO WITH NONE OF THE FLAWS.
A CONSTRUCT OF PERFECT
LOGIC AND PURITY.

A
MASTERPIECE.

AND
I COULDN'T
HAVE DONE IT
WITHOUT YOUR
HELP.

We're terrified of **Kryptonians**.

With a planet of almost 100,000 men and women with the powers of **Superman**, we'd be fools not to be. We all remember when just a handful of Kryptonians came to **Earth**, led by **General Zod**, and put our planet beneath their heel.

It would be naive to think that could never happen again.

Just as it would be ignorance to believe that is what all Kryptonians want.

Our planet has enemies, and yes, some are from Krypton. But my father would have you forget that Earth's greatest protector is a man from that same world.

Superman's example has inspired countless others, human and alien alike. Even now, in **Metropolis**, **Man-El** carries the Man of Steel's banner forth.

And even now, in the **Middle East**, two others struggle under the burden of that same legacy.

...THOUGH YOU'RE
HARDLY IN ANY
CONDITION FOR A
BATTLE, BOY.

HHNNNN!!

CHRIS!





Nightwing and Flamebird have taken a lot of, forgive the pun, bad press.

Along with Supergirl, they were accused of Mon-El's murder, of destroying Metropolis's water supply. They were painted as villains, who set out to destroy Superman's legacy. They were painted as terrorists, Kryptonian agents whose mission was to undermine Earth's security, to weaken our defenses as the inevitable prelude to a war between worlds, a war between New Krypton and Earth.

The truth is just the opposite.

The best lies hold a kernel of truth, after all. There are Kryptonian agents on Earth, spies sent by General Zod to prepare the battlefield. It is true that a "cold war" has been waged for almost a year now, with elements of our two worlds attempting to manipulate events, to manipulate lives, to turn that cold war hot. On New Krypton, that march to war has been led by Zod and his agents. Here on Earth, it has been led by men like Sam Lane.

Each side has twisted truths, has hatched plots, has abused the trust of their office.

Yes, there are Kryptonian agents working here on Earth. But Nightwing and Flamebird are not among them.

Nightwing and Flamebird—like Mon-El, like Supergirl—are fighting to stop them.



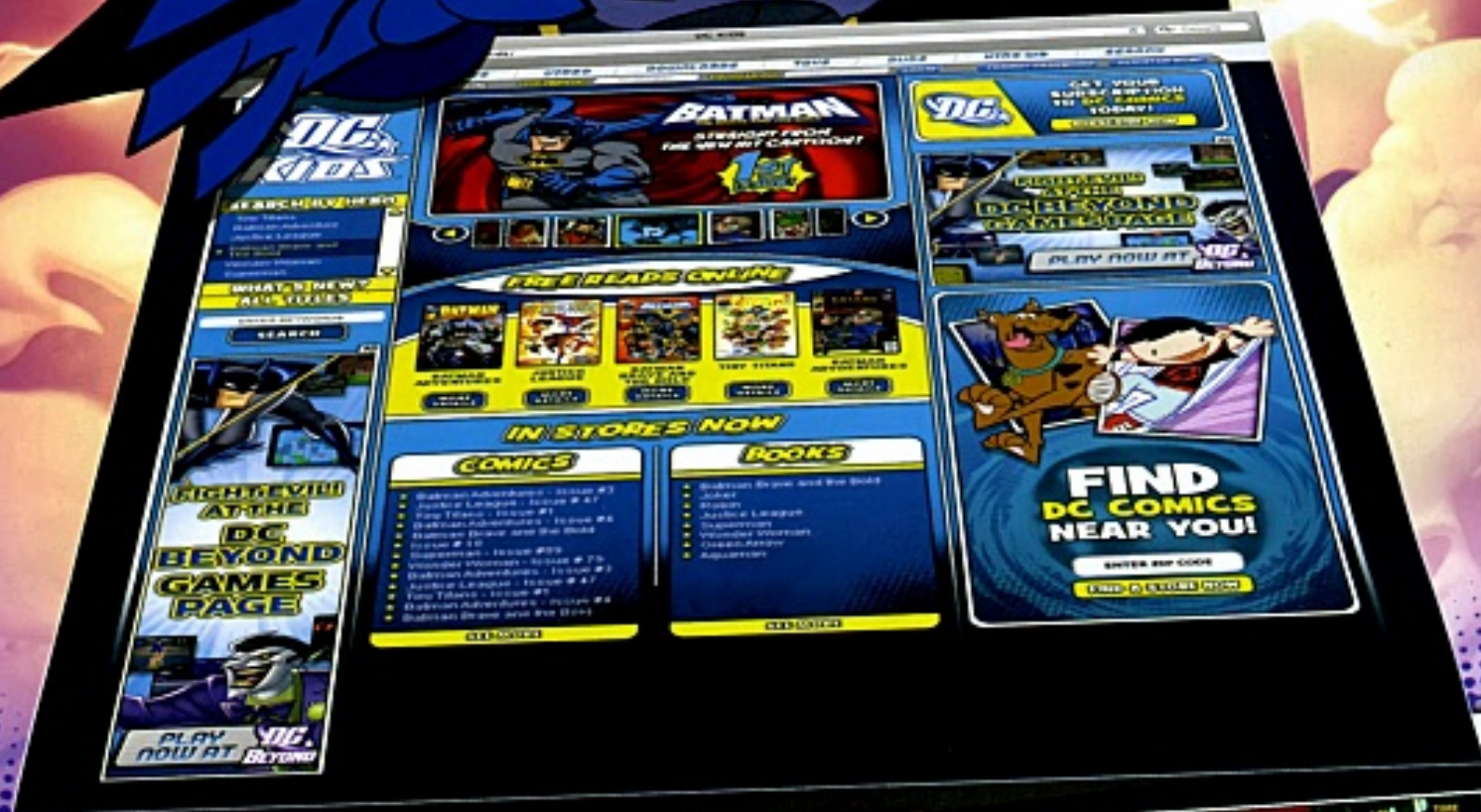
...SO I MADE
A BETTER
ONE!

From what I've seen in **Iraq**,
from the damage at what was
once the **Temple of Ur**...

...from the reports of the...
thing that's rampaging across
the Middle East...

...we should all pray that
they succeed.

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RISE AND FALL

WHAT SECRET WILL THE EMERALD ARCHER REVEAL THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING?



WRITTEN BY J.T. KRUL



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GREEN ARROW**

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BASRA, IRAQ.
17 KM FROM IRAN-IRAQ BORDER.

THIS IS AS FAR AS I CAN TAKE YOU, MS. LANE.

WE HEAD ANY FARTHER EAST IN A U.S. ARMY BIRD, WE'RE GOING TO MAKE A LOT OF THE WRONG PEOPLE VERY ANGRY.

ANY WORD ON THE CASUALTIES?

IT'S BAD.

I HATE LEAVING YOU OUT HERE. YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, I CAN GIVE YOU A LIFT BACK TO BAGHDAD...

THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY, SERGEANT.

I'VE MADE OTHER TRAVEL PLANS.

GOOD LUCK. AND THANKS... TO YOU AND THE GENERAL.

WELCOME ABOARD, MA'AM. WE'RE TO TAKE YOU ACROSS THE BORDER, PER MR. STAGG'S ORDERS.

MA'AM, I'VE WORKED FOR MR. STAGG FOR A LONG TIME, AND THIS IS HIGHLY IRREGULAR. SO, I'VE GOT TO ASK:

HOW'D YOU GET HIM TO HELP YOU?

SORRY, PILOT.

TRADE SECRET.

WHATEVER YOU SAY, MA'AM.

WHATEVER YOU SAY.

BANDAR IMAM
KHOMENEI OIL DEPOT.
IRAN.

(FIRE!)

SHOOOM

SHOOOM

BAW-HOOOM

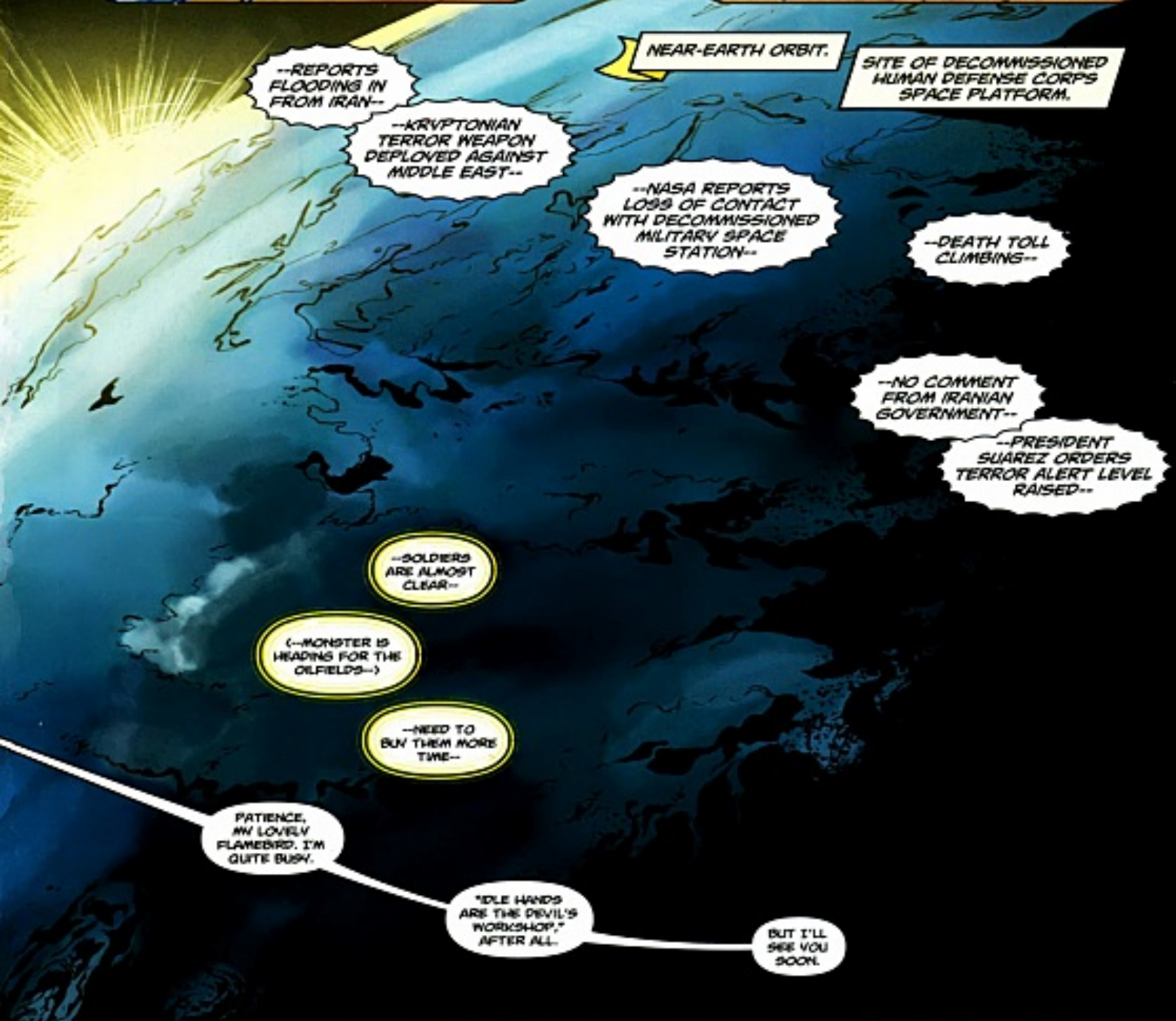


HHSSSSS

HHSSSSS

GO FOR THE
BLASPHEMER'S
EYES.





--REPORTS
FLOODING IN
FROM IRAN--

--KRYPTONIAN
TERROR WEAPON
DEPLOYED AGAINST
MIDDLE EAST--

NEAR-EARTH ORBIT.

SITE OF DECOMMISSIONED
HUMAN DEFENSE CORPS
SPACE PLATFORM.

--NASA REPORTS
LOSS OF CONTACT
WITH DECOMMISSIONED
MILITARY SPACE
STATION--

--DEATH TOLL
CLIMBING--

--NO COMMENT
FROM IRANIAN
GOVERNMENT--

--PRESIDENT
SUAREZ ORDERS
TERROR ALERT LEVEL
RAISED--

--SOLDIERS
ARE ALMOST
CLEAR--

--MONSTER IS
HEADING FOR THE
OILFIELDS--

--NEED TO
BUY THEM MORE
TIME--

PATIENCE,
MY LOVELY
FLAMEBIRD. I'M
QUITE BUSY.

"IDLE HANDS
ARE THE DEVIL'S
WORKSHOP,"
AFTER ALL.

BUT I'LL
SEE YOU
SOON.



GOD WALK

POSTED AT: 1847 LOCAL TIME | LOCATION: >>>SECURE<<<

Nightwing and Flamebird are names that we, as humans, have known for years. There was a **Nightwing** associated with **Batman** in **Gotham City**, then later in the city of **Blüdhaven**; a **Flamebird** known in the **Teen Titans**. Human heroes, both of them.

So why would we see those names on a young man, on a young woman, from Krypton?

The answer is another piece of Superman's legacy, of his impact. Of what is, perhaps, his greatest power: his power to inspire.

Nightwing and Flamebird are names from Kryptonian mythology, from their story of creation. Children of the god **Rao**, they were appointed protectors of Krypton, one to watch over the night, the other to watch in the day. They are parts of the whole, forever tied together, forever separated. They are siblings and lovers, and together, their duty was to keep their world safe.

Turn on your television, skate to a news link, look at the live feed. That "monster" you're seeing? It's not some Kryptonian weapon. Not as such, at least.

What you're seeing is their father. A god. Rao.

Or a madman's attempt to construct one.

A mad god, rampaging across the Middle East.



So, here's a question:

If Flamebird and Nightwing are the villains they've been painted to be, if they've done all the evil they have been accused of doing...



...why are they fighting Roo,
instead of aiding him?



OH, NO.

IS HE...?

YES.



HE'S
GETTING
BIGGER.

HORMOZGAN, IRAN.
0021 HOURS.

MS. LANE?

MS. LANE, I HAVE
MY ORDERS FROM
MR. STAGG.
I'M TO
BRING YOU TO
OUR CORPORATE
OFFICES IN TEHRAN
IF I DEEM THE
SITUATION TOO
DANGEROUS.

MA'AM,
WE NEED
TO GO.

DID MR. STAGG GIVE
YOU INSTRUCTIONS
ON WHAT TO DO IF
I INSIST WE GO
ON AHEAD?

YES, HE
DID.

I'M TO DO AS YOU
ASK, REGARDLESS OF
THE DANGER.

AND I'M
TO TELL YOU,
VERBATIM, THE
FOLLOWING:

"LOSE MY NUMBER,
MS. LANE, AND NEVER
CALL IT AGAIN."

UNDERSTOOD.

LET'S GO.

NEW KRYPTON.

THE CATHEDRAL OF
THE RELIGIOUS GUILD.

FROM
VOID TO
CREATION...

...FROM
CHAOS TO
ORDER...

...FROM THE
END UNTO THE
BEGINNING...

...WE ARE THE
CHILDREN OF
YOUR PRECISE
DESIGN...

...THUS WE
STRIVE TO PERFECT
OURSELVES ANEW IN YOUR
NAME, O FATHER OF THE
STARS, CREATOR OF
LIGHT--



17 KM SW LARKANA, PAKISTAN.

"THAT'S THE PAKISTANI *MILITARY*
DOWN THERE, MS. LANE..."



THE FIRES OF RAO

POSTED AT: 0427 LOCAL TIME | LOCATION: NEAR LARKANA, PAKISTAN

It's taken this construct less than twelve hours to cover over two thousand miles on foot.

At every step, it's been met with force.

At every step, that force has been rebuffed.

No, not rebuffed.

Absorbed.

...AND WORD
FROM THE CASTLE
IS THEY'RE TAKING THE
SAFETIES OFF
THEIR *NUKES*.

THEY *LIGHT*
THAT *CANDLE*, INDIA'S
GONNA *RESPOND*. THE
WHITE KING WAS *VERY*
CLEAR ABOUT YOUR
SAFETY--

YOU TELL
MR. TERRIFIC
YOU *DID* YOUR
JOB, AND GIVE
HIM MY
THANKS...

...I'VE GOT A
LIFT THE REST
OF THE *WAY*.

Thus far, every effort to stop him has been like trying to stop an advancing tank with a sheet of wrapping paper. Bad for the paper, and ignored by the tank.

Even Nightwing and Flamebird haven't been able to slow this False Rao down. The best they've been able to do is keep people alive and out of its way.

But still, rockets and bullets and explosions and fire rain down on this thing. It doesn't even look angry. Doesn't even look like it's aware. Just has this dull smile on its face, as if something feels good but it doesn't quite know what, doesn't quite know why.

I think I do. And it's scaring the living hell out of me.





IVE--IVE
SEEN THAT
BEFORE...

...FROM THE
BIBLE STORY,
IT'S...

CREATION.









TO BE CONTINUED!

AND NOW...

CAPTAIN ATOM



MY NAME IS CAPTAIN
NATHANIEL ADAM.
LATE UNITED STATES
AIR FORCE.



MY NAME IS
CAPTAIN ATOM.
SOMETIME HERO,
SOMETIME VILLAIN,
SOMETIME
LOST SOUL.

AND I AM
AT PEACE.

CAPTAIN ATOM

CHAPTER NINE

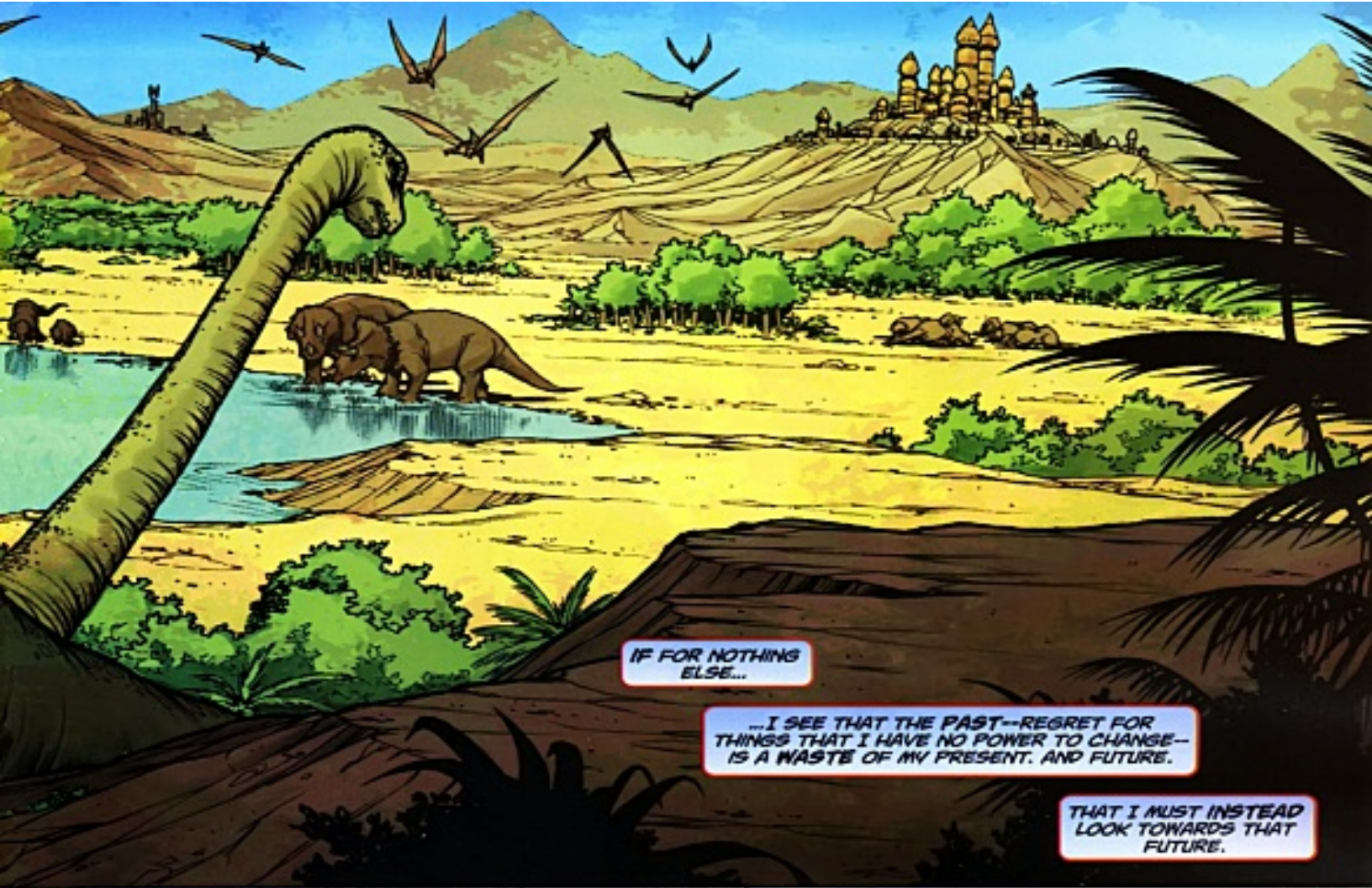
JAMES ROBINSON-WRITER • CAFU-ARTIST
SANTIAGO AREAS-COLORIST • ROB LEIGH-LETTERER
WIL MOSS-ASST. EDITOR • MATT IDELSON-EDITOR

FINALLY.

AND FOR THAT I GUESS
I SHOULD THANK THIS
LATEST CRAZY CHAPTER IN
MY ALTERNATELY BLESSED
AND CURSED EXISTENCE.

MY PRESENT? THIS
MOMENT, I FLY ABOVE
SKARTARIS, HOME TO
BOTH DINOSAURS AND
CREATURES OF MYTH.

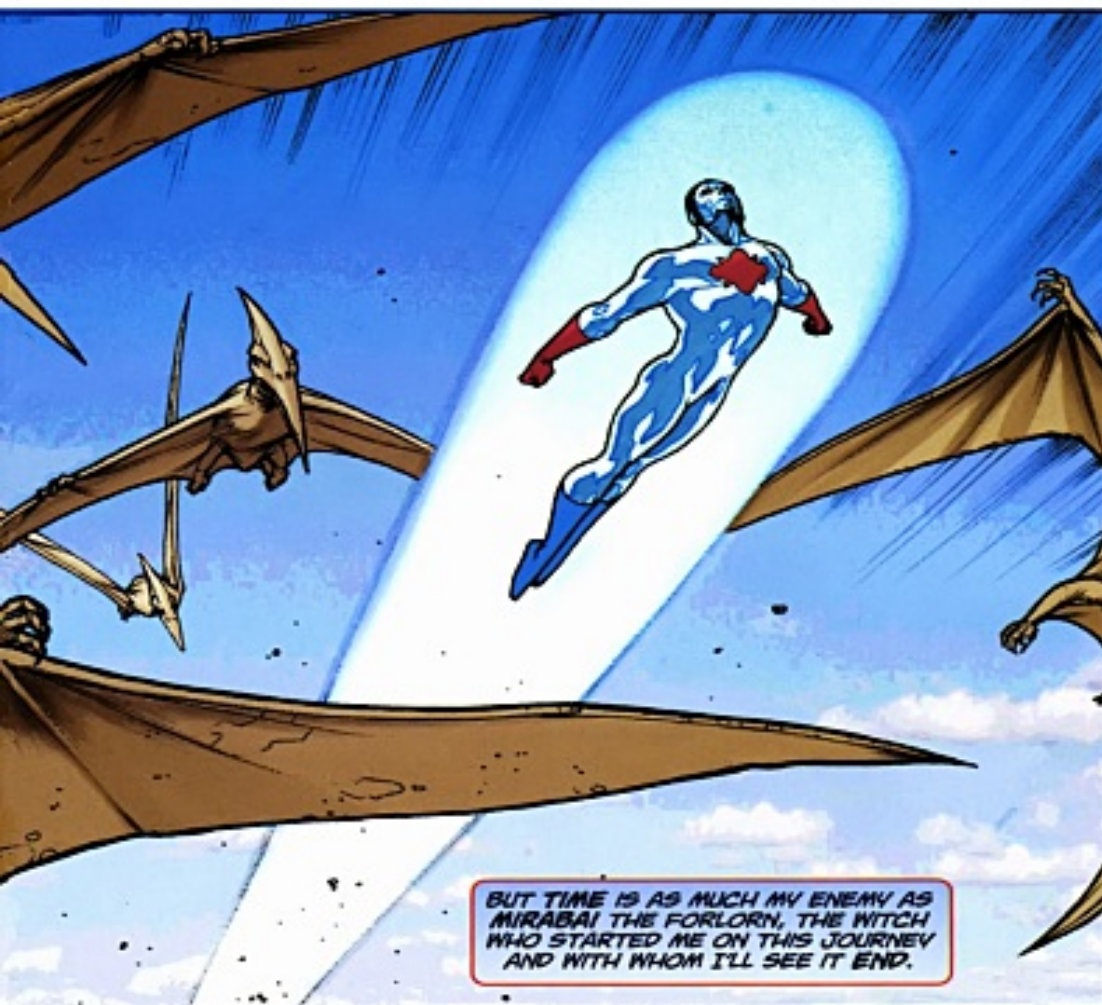
HOME OF TRAVIS MORGAN,
WARLORD. HE, TOO, A MAN OF
STRANGE HISTORY WHO I'M
SORRY I WON'T MEET.



IF FOR NOTHING
ELSE...

...I SEE THAT THE PAST--REGRET FOR
THINGS THAT I HAVE NO POWER TO CHANGE--
IS A WASTE OF MY PRESENT. AND FUTURE.

THAT I MUST INSTEAD
LOOK TOWARDS THAT
FUTURE.



BUT TIME IS AS MUCH MY ENEMY AS
MIRABAI THE FORLORN, THE WITCH
WHO STARTED ME ON THIS JOURNEY
AND WITH WHOM I'LL SEE IT END.



NOT HERE, THOUGH.
NOT IN SKARTARIS...



...BUT
SORCERERS'
WORLD.

HARD TO SAY WHEN I CROSSED
OVER FROM MORGAN'S WORLD
TO MRABAI'S...

...BUT I CAN TELL
THIS IS HER LAND.

I MEAN, SURE, I'D
NEVER SEEN SKARTARIS
BEFORE, SO MAYBE IT
DOES HAVE WINGED
ELVES OR GOBLINS OR
WHATEVER THEY ARE...
RIDING ON WINGED
RHINOS OR WHATEVER
THEY ARE...

...BUT THIS FEELS
LIKE MRABAI'S
REALM.

AND THE ENERGY
AROUND ME...
THE AIR...

...MY SKIN IS
TINSLING.

THOUGH NOW IT'S BEEN EXPLAINED
TO ME BY THE SHADOWFACT...

...HOW MY BODY'S ATOMIC CHEMISTRY
IS THE INVERSE OF MAGIC, SO AT LEAST
I UNDERSTAND WHY.



...I THINK.



NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS USE MY POWER...ATOMIC POWER TO BRING DOWN MIRABAI AND STOP HER FROM--



AV, SIR!
CAPTAIN!



YOU RECALL US,
I TRUST!

SO WHO WAS
THAT I JUST
FOUGHT?

MIRABAI'S SCOUTS.
WHICH MEANS SHE'LL KNOW
YOU'RE BACK. I'M SORRY
TO TELL YOU.

NOT IMPORTANT,
DANEL. SHE'D KNOW
IT SOON ENOUGH
ANYWAY.

HOW HAVE YOU
GUYS BEEN? THE
RESISTANCE?

I DON'T KNOW IF IT WAS
YOU...YOUR CHANGE FROM
KILLER TO CHAMPION...OR
MAYBE NATASHA IRONS'
INVOLVEMENT--

BOTH,
I FIGURE.

ANYWAY, WE
REBELS HAVE
MOBILIZED.

IN THE LONG TIME SINCE
YOU'VE BEEN AWAY, WE'VE
RAISED AN ARMY.

"LONG TIME"?
HUM? I'VE BEEN
GONE DAYS.

DAYS? NO.
YOU'VE BEEN GONE
FOR EIGHT MONTHS,
CAPTAIN.

SO SECONDS...DAYS
PASS DIFFERENTLY
HERE? FIGURES.

IT'S OF NO MATTER--
YOU'RE HERE NOW.
HERE AND IN TIME FOR
TOMORROW.

WHICH
IS?

WE MARCH ON
HER CASTLE.

WE'RE
TWENTY THOUSAND
STRONG, MEN AND
MAGES.

AND
OGRES.

AND
OGRES.

TOMORROW?

YES.
TOMORROW WE FIGHT,
AND WITH YOU AT OUR
FLANK, I KNOW
WE'LL WIN.



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AND I'LL BE
WAITING.

TO BE
CONTINUED...

SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW

GEOFF JOHNS FRANCIS MANAPUL

The FLASH



A NEW MONTHLY SERIES STARRING
THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE



APRIL 2010

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"NEW YORK MAY
BE THE CITY THAT
NEVER SLEEPS, BUT
CENTRAL CITY IS THE CITY
ALWAYS ON THE RUN--"





A dynamic comic book illustration of The Flash in his red suit, running at high speed through a city street. He is dodging a blue car that is moving towards him. The background shows city buildings and motion lines indicating speed. A speech bubble from the car says "PULL OVER." The Flash has a determined expression and is surrounded by yellow lightning bolts.

**PULL
OVER.**

STRUCK BY A BOLT OF LIGHTNING AND DOUSED IN CHEMICALS, POLICE SCIENTIST BARRY ALLEN WAS TRANSFORMED INTO THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE. WITH EVERY STEP HE RUNS, THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER GENERATES AN ENIGMATIC ENERGY CALLED THE SPEED FORCE, ABLE TO BE TAPPED INTO BY OTHERS THROUGHOUT TIME WHO SHARE HIS SENSE OF JUSTICE. TODAY, BARRY ALLEN PROTECTS AND SERVES THE WORLD OVER AS THE

FLASH

DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS THE FLASH IN:
CASE ONE: THE DASTARDLY

DEATH OF THE ROGUES

GEOFF JOHNS-WRITER
FRANCIS MANAPUL-ART
BRIAN BUCCELLATO-COLORIST

NICK J. NAPOLITANO
LETTERER

ADAM SCHLAGMAN
ASSOC. EDITOR

EDDIE BERGANZA
EDITOR

TO BE
CONTINUED IN:
THE FLASH #1
IN STORES APRIL
2010



GEOFF JOHNS! DAVID FINCH! BRIGHTEST DAY!

Greetings, DC Nation! You've probably noticed that we've been dropping some major announcements about what's in store for the DCU in 2010. We couldn't be any more excited, and you can be sure we've still got a few aces up our sleeve. Before we go any further, though, we wanted to make sure all of you saw this very important announcement that debuted on The Source (dcublog.com). Take one more peek at David Finch's incredible artwork and look closely at what Geoff Johns has to say.

The questions appear often and in variations: What is BRIGHTEST DAY? How does BLACKEST NIGHT end? And what's next for the DCU?

Well, we won't spoil it all for you here, but we can throw on the table another major piece to the puzzle, and that's this amazing David Finch cover to BRIGHTEST DAY #2, featuring a certain King of the Seas. And we not only have art to show, but we caught up with BRIGHTEST DAY writer Geoff Johns to give us his thoughts. Take it away, Geoff:

"'Brightest Day' is about second chances. I think it's been obvious from day one that there are major plans for certain heroes and villains to take center stage in the DC Universe, among many others, post-Blackest Night. 'Brightest Day' is not a banner or a vague catch-all direction for the DC Universe, it is a story. Nor is 'Brightest Day' a sign that the DC Universe is going to be all about 'light and bright' superheroes. Some second chances work out...some don't."

Got it? OK, good! Check back soon for more information on 'Brightest Day.'

Be seeing you,

Ian Sattler
Senior Story Editor, DCU

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